

CY 2026 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE FOCUS AREAS

Economic Development Subcommittee

March 27, 2026

ACTION REQUESTED

No action is requested. This item is for information.

PREVIOUS ACTION

At its January 30 meeting, the Policy Committee approved the CY 2026 Economic Development Subcommittee Focus Areas.

BACKGROUND

Purpose

The Economic Development Subcommittee shall provide advice and policy recommendations to the Policy Committee to support economic growth and enhance quality of life.

Goals

- Operate as the CEDS Strategy Committee, as required by U.S. EDA
- Inform NOACA of relevant economic development matters
- Foster sustainable and equitable economic growth
- Provide input and recommendations in NOACA project planning and prioritization
- Be a forum for regional collaboration to support regional economic growth

BACKGROUND

CY 2025 Subcommittee Focus Area accomplishments

- **Implement and refine adopted performance measures**
 - Continued refinement of baseline performance measures adopted in December 2024
- **Promote community collaboration through regional projects**
 - Presentation of the Aerozone Transportation and Economic Development Initiative (TEDI)
 - Stakeholder jurisdictions, and Cleveland Hopkins Int'l Airport, and NASA Glenn Research Center (50 square miles)
 - **TEDI Objective:** Stimulate regional economic growth through aerospace, advanced manufacturing, and logistics
- **Educate communities on the CEDS and its benefits to their areas**
 - Staff continues to review the CEDS and educate stakeholders

BACKGROUND

CY 2025 Subcommittee Focus Area accomplishments

- **Create a centralized repository for all information**
 - NOACA has partnered with CSU to provide data intended to:
 - Inform stakeholders (Proof beyond intuition of a project's need/funding)
 - Guide local policy (Promote reactive policy for measured economic growth)
 - Strengthen the understanding of economic conditions
 - Guide strategic decision-making across CEDS priority areas
- **EDA approval of the economic development district designation**
 - Submitted additional requested information to EDA

BACKGROUND

Potential 2026 Focus Areas (Similar to CY2025)	Status
Implement and refine adopted performance measures	Ongoing
Continue development of a grant strategy	Ongoing
Promote community collaboration through regional projects	Ongoing
Educate communities on the CEDS and its benefits to their areas	Ongoing
Create a centralized repository for all information	Ongoing
EDA approval of the economic development district (EDD) designation	Ongoing

NEXT STEPS

The adoption of Focus Areas helps the Economic Development Subcommittee prioritize strategies, promote and coordinate development, and leverage the involvement of the public, private and non-profit sectors in implementing and maintaining the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).



NOACA

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

NOACA will **strengthen** regional cohesion, **preserve** existing infrastructure, and **build** a sustainable multimodal transportation system to **support** economic development and **enhance** quality of life in Northeast Ohio.